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All communications intended for publica-
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JOHN M. CONNOR, Agent and Correspondent.
WEATHERFORD.
H. B. DORSEY, Agent and Correspondent.

THE GAZETTE has the largest bona
fide circulation of any Daily Newspaper
published in Texas.

The Bernhard is playing to large and
enthusiastic audiences in Egypt. They
are fond of antiquities in the hoary-
headed kingdom of the Nile.

The agitation for a road law that will
give Texas better roads promises at last
to yield fruit. The need is great and the
action should be energetic and persistent.

The story of the president's contribu-
tion of \$10,000 to the campaign fund of
his party is declared to be correct by Mr.
Barum. It proves that Mr. Cleveland's
heart was in the right place, if he did
flirt unduly at times with mugwump
maiden.

The GAZETTE would urge upon every
town and county in the state that feels
the need of a better road system to send
a representative delegation to the Dallas
state convention on the 31st proximo.
That convention should be made to speak
loudly and intelligently to all the state.

The Republican senatorial caucus has
resolved to go on with the discussion of
the tariff during the holidays. If the
country had its finger on the trigger of a
Gatling gun pointed towards the national
capital an attempt to carry out that pro-
gramme would result in several vacant
senatorships.

If the object of our state land laws is
to promote the actual settlement and oc-
cupancy of the vacant lands, why not
frame the laws with that object solely in
view? If settlement is desirable at all it
is desirable above all things; if settlement
is undesirable why should the law pre-
tend to favor settlement?

The newspapers of Texas deserve the
holiday so many of them will take this
week. They are the tireless advocates of
every movement calculated to advance
the public welfare and progress, and
they deserve to rest one day in the year.
Peace and pleasure be with you, brethren,
but THE GAZETTE shall miss you.

The state of Texas collects an annual
occupation tax of \$5 from lawyers, \$5
from land agents, and from \$3 to \$125
from merchants. As a matter of strict
equity it is hardly fair that it should ex-
act an average tax of \$64 from the school
land settlers. THE GAZETTE moves that
that the occupation tax upon the devel-
opment of the school lands be lowered if
not repealed.

SENATOR DAWES has introduced a bill
to remove the political disabilities of a
Massachusetts woman who thus takes a
short cut in the direction of woman
suffrage. If Mr. Dawes will agree to
amend his bill so as to procure the resig-
nation of his own political privileges in
favor of the subject of the bill, it ought
to go through with a whoop under a sus-
pension of the rules.

F. B. THURBER, the New York cap-
italist, told an investigating committee
that trusts were a public benefit in the
establishment of uniform prices and the
prevention of suicidal competition.

Since the apparent endorsement of the
government trust maintained for the
benefit of one class of American citizens
at the expense of all other classes, Mr.
Thurber certainly has high authority for
his opinion.

EAST TEXAS is awake to the necessity of erect-
ing manufactures. West Texas is awake to the
necessity of irrigation and land law reform, but
will also take up the industrial question. The
grand old Lone Star state has now entered upon
an era of prosperity and advancement that will
continue until she becomes the empire state of
the Union.—(El Paso Herald.)

And in unity there is strength. Let
East Texas vote for a land law that will
settle the west, and East Texas will have
all the manufactures, mines and mills it
wants. East Texas is threatened with a
boom now because of 2,000,000 people in
the state. What would East Texas be-
come if Texas had 5,000,000 or 10,000,000
population?

Among the many excellent exchanges received
at this office none is more highly valued than
the Fort Worth GAZETTE. It is neat as a pin and
brimful of pungent news. The GAZETTE evi-
dently has some Northern men on its editorial
staff.—(Klingman (Kan.) Courier.)

No, esteemed contemporary, the staff
is not "Yank," but "Reb"—ex-Reb, if
you please. THE GAZETTE's editors
are Southern born and reared and pas-
sionately love the South. THE GAZETTE
is Reb and Yank; it would build up its
section and bind more closely the sec-
tions of the Union. It loves its own sec-
tion and reveres "the flag" as the symbol
of human freedom; it is for Union, law,
progress, justice, and pities the self-com-
placency of those dear souls north of the
Ohio river who imagine that all virtue
and energy and thrift and good are con-
fined to the section that grows White
Caps and anarchists and Foraker and In-
galls.

THE VIDETTES.

The Montague Democrat is wrestling
with a conundrum that erstwhile inter-
ested Fort Worth and nearly all Texas:
if there is nothing disreputable in being a
member of a secret military-political or-
ganization why did men rant and rave
and tear their hair when their member-
ship in the Videttes was exposed? The
Montague paper says:

The Bowie Sunbeam after publishing the con-
stitution and by-laws of the "Videttes" in con-
secutive issues, says it published them without
comment, that its readers might see what the
order was or what it intended to do. We do not
desire to arouse the Sunbeam to a controversy
over the "Videttes," but simply wish to call the
minds of the people to the fact that the best
evidence that there was no good in or could come
of the "Videttes" is the facts, you could not
find a man who would own that there was such an
order as the Videttes; and if you accused anyone
of belonging to it he would become offended
and charge you to be a slanderer and threaten to
sue you for slander. How could this be recognized
as a good institution if it was slandering a man
to call him a "Vidette"? These are facts that
cannot be denied.

A NEGRO'S VIEW.

Those who favor greater restrictions
upon suffrage will be surprised to receive
this endorsement of their theories from
the Detroit Plaindealer, an organ of what
it is pleased to term the Afro-American
race:

The best sentiment of the country is agreed
upon this idea, that educational qualification
should constitute the basis of citizenship.

This remark occurs in a discussion of
the views of Mr. Oates of Alabama with
reference to the negro as a political fac-
tor in the South. The editor of the
Plaindealer thinks it would be unwise to
legislate so as to affect those who have
enjoyed in the past the right of suffrage,
but favors an educational test for the
voter of the future.

Such an utterance from such a source
may properly be regarded as a favorable
omen. It points to a culmination of race
differences in an amicable adjustment
that will leave public affairs in the hands
of those most capable to administer them.

BOLDLY PROCLAIMED.

Right thinking people who know the difference
in value of Texas school lands and federal lands
of the territories prefer to locate in Texas, and
all that Texas need do is to let the difference in
production, climate, etc., be well understood
in the sections from which immigration is ex-
pected. The lands in question belong to the
free schools in Texas, and are held in trust by
the state, to be used to promote public education
and not immigration.—(Dallas Times-Herald.)

The question is not one of climate, but
of settlement. The editor of the Dallas
paper ought to investigate the relative
values of farm lands in Kansas, settled
under the federal law, and in Texas
where the object is "not to promote im-
migration."

If the lands in question "are held in
trust to promote public education and
not immigration," they should not be of-
fered for sale at any price, but the state
should hold these lands four or five hun-
dred years, until nowhere on earth
among civilized people could immigration
find homes save in Texas. THE GAZETTE
has long been of the opinion that the
land laws of Texas were not framed to
promote settlement, but it scarcely ex-
pected such bold avowal of the fact.

THE ETHICS OF THE LAND LAW.

The San Antonio Times skillfully evades
an answer of THE GAZETTE's question as
to the ethics of that feature of the Texas
land system which provides for a fore-
feiture of the land and all prior pay-
ments upon it of a settler who fails to
pay upon the very day it becomes due the
annual interest due upon the land on the
1st of August of each year. To the hypo-
thetical case put by THE GAZETTE, illus-
trating cases of frequent occurrence
under the school land law, the Times
replies that "the vendor would be per-
fectly justifiable in enforcing his lien." But
the Times does not assert, and it will
not assert, that the vendor would be en-
titled to retain all the purchase money
paid upon the land, all the an-
nual interest payments upon the land,
the improvements upon the land and the
land itself, out of which the obligation
arose, leaving the purchaser a bankrupt
because of his inability to meet a small

obligation on the exact day of its ma-
turity.

It is one thing to enforce a lien, it is
another thing to escheat the property of
a citizen to the state because he cannot
pay his dues to the state.

Suppose a citizen were unable to pay
his taxes when called upon by the state,
would it have the right to forfeit the
property upon which the taxes were as-
essed? This obligation is as sacred as
the other; the parties are the same, and
the rights correlative.

Such a proceeding would not be so
harsh and arbitrary, as is the decree
of forfeiture of school lands for non-pay-
ment of interest money on the exact day
of maturity. A forfeiture for delay in
the payment of taxes might not involve
all the property of the citizen, but every case of forfeiture
of school land escheats to the state all the
accumulations of the settler, who of ne-
cessity puts into the land all his available
funds in the effort to develop it.

The claim of the Times that the right
of forfeiture is one of the considerations
of the contract was perhaps not
made seriously, nor intended to receive
a serious reply. The mortgagee of land
may claim a right of forfeiture as one of
the considerations of his contract, but
should he attempt to enforce such a con-
tract he would be summarily kicked out
of court.

How can the state defend a claim
which its judges declare so grossly inequi-
table as to render a contract void?

Is it true that the moral essence of an
action is changed because of its perpetration
by a state?

THE GAZETTE does not so believe, nor
will it credit the Times with such a belief
until it distinctly affirms it.

Long ago imprisonment for debt was
abolished in this country; it has never
been permitted in Texas. Yet the sys-
tem of which THE GAZETTE complains
works a greater hardship than imprisonment.

It confiscates all the property of the citi-
zen because of his inability to pay a debt.

It inflicts a more serious penalty for
the non-payment of interest money on
school lands, on a certain day than it
inflicts upon the author of grave felonies.

It makes delay in the payment of a
debt due the state a crime punished with
a penalty against which there is a constitu-
tional inhibition even in the case of
treason.

In the face of these incontestable facts,
upon what ground can it be denied that
toward the actual settler upon the pub-
lic domain the state is guilty of conduct
which in a private citizen would be pro-
nounced, without a dissenting voice,
plain, indefensible tyrannical swindling.

THE GAZETTE.

The Kind and Appreciated Words of Esteemed
Contemporaries for The Gazette.

A "WHAT IS IT?"
Lampass Leader: The Fort Worth
GAZETTE is out in its new dress. Editori-
ally there is no change—it had already
reached the extreme heights of excel-
lence. Typographically it is, botanically
speaking, a bellis perennis.

REPRESENTS THE SOUTHWEST.
Tuscon Pioneer: The Fort Worth
GAZETTE came out in its new dress on the
8th inst., sparkling in minion body type,
a new head, a new make-up, new dis-
play, new out and out, and issuing from
its magnificent quarters just built
for it and just occupied. THE GAZETTE
has long been recognized as a true cham-
pion of Southwestern ideas, a true cham-
pion of Southwestern interests, and a
true type of Southwestern enterprise, and
it is proving itself entitled to these opin-
ions in the superlative degree. Those
who had claimed that THE GAZETTE was
superior only in a local respect will have to
come over to the idea that it is one of the
leading metropolitan journals of the
country. A paper that can make such
an appearance as that is justified in ask-
ing, "how do you like us in our new
clothes?"

WARP AND WOOF.

Snyder Citizen: The Fort Worth
GAZETTE comes to us now in brand new
clothes. And in putting in its warp it
never forgot its woof; it is just check full
of rare and ray reading matter, from
the entire world. Long may THE GAZETTE
fourish and wear the crown as queen of
the great Southwest.

FINK—EXCEPT.

Snyder Citizen: How do you like our new
dress?—(Fort Worth Gazette.)

Fine, but it seems to be a little low in
the yoke, sleeves too short, the belt is
too large, drape too full in front and
too long behind.

NO BETTER IN TEXAS.

Kerrville Eye: The Fort Worth
GAZETTE is out in a big holiday edition cele-
brating its magnificent power press and
new dress. There is no better daily in
Texas, and no more prosperous and en-
ergetic city than Fort Worth. That she
has her eye on deep water at Arkansas
Pass is evident from the way one of her
railroads is heading. Long and prosper-
ous life to the busy city and her repre-
sentative paper.

MORE OF A FAVORITE.

Orange Tribune: The Fort Worth
GAZETTE looks as gay as a society belle in
its new dress, and we believe it will now
become more of a favorite with the peo-
ple than ever since it looks so bright and
new.

ONE OF THE BEST.

Wills Point Labor Organ: Last Sunday
morning, to the surprise of the croaker,
the Fort Worth GAZETTE came out in a
new dress, printed on one of the finest
presses in the South. THE GAZETTE is
acknowledged by all, save a few moss-
backs, to be one of the best dailies in the
United States.

HANDSOME IN THE SOUTHWEST.

Gatesville Post: The Fort Worth
GAZETTE in its new dress is beyond com-
parison the handsomest morning daily in
the Southwest. It looks like a well-bred
gentleman, clean shaven, fashionably
attired and aglow with the luxuries inci-
dent to a plethoric bank account.

A PERFECT DAILY.

Greenville Herald: The Fort Worth
GAZETTE, printed on a perfecting press
and attired in a new dress, is a perfect
daily—editorially, mechanically and
"newspically." The Herald extends fra-

ternal congratulations to THE GAZETTE
and hopes that its future career may be
like the eagle's flight, "upward, on-
ward," and true to its course.

AS SWEET AS A BRIDE.

Jefferson News: The Fort Worth
GAZETTE has walked into a brand new dress
and looks as sweet and pretty as a bride.

A GREAT PAPER.

Forney Register: THE GAZETTE has
always been a splendid morning journal,
but of late it is undoubtedly a great pa-
per, having few equals, if any, in the
state. We are glad to note THE GAZETTE's
prosperity, as few papers in the
state has its luck.

THE FAVORITE DAILY.

Granbury News: The new dress of the
Fort Worth GAZETTE places that excel-
lent paper in the front rank as a metro-
politan daily in appearance, as it has
long been in its editorial and news col-
umns. THE GAZETTE has all the time
been the favorite of Texas daily in this sec-
tion, and the new dress cannot fail to
please its patrons.

NEWS AND NOTES.

There are \$50,000 investors in De Les-
seps' useless ditch.

The vote cast in the last election was
the heaviest known in the world's his-
tory.

It is said that nearly \$100,000 has been
sent from Boston to Ireland, mostly by
servant girls, for Christmas gifts to
friends at home.

A Philadelphia lady, who has been
twice happily married herself, lately
gave this advice to a young friend just
entering society: "Keep your eyes wide
open, so that when the right man comes
along you will see him; you will surely
recognize him, and the recognition will
be mutual."

Capital punishment has been abolished
in Italy. This was done in Switzerland
some seven years ago, but the result was
not regarded as satisfactory, and capital
punishment was again re-enacted. It is
curious that it should now be abandoned
in Italy, where the murder rate is the
highest in Europe.

Telegraph operators, it seems, are de-
veloping a disease of their own. One or
two cases recently occurred abroad, in
which the finger nails dropped off, one
after another. The affection is supposed
to be due to the constant hammering and
pushing with the finger ends required by
the working of the telegraph instru-
ment.

It was Baron Munchausen who first
suggested the Panama canal, and the best
of the barons in a direct line will not be
to see it completed. Only one-fifth of
the line is even approaching completion.
It has cost millions of dollars and thou-
sands of lives. Now let the Nicaragua
canal be pushed. It can be opened for
navigation in 1895.

The Cincinnati Enquirer is responsible
for the following: Pink nails, indolence.
Red nails, a war-like nature. Narrow
nails incline to selfishness. Fillet nails
are associated with devils. Small, round
nails denote obstinacy. Crooked nails
indicate a fierce nature. Nails abnor-
mally pale, or with black specks on them
denote sickness. Broad nails are con-
sidered to be indicative of lushful and
gentle natures. Long nails appertain to
those of a temporizing disposition. These
are the nails of persons who hate senes-
cence.

The supreme court Bible is a small,
black velvet-covered octavo. It has been
used in the administering of every oath
since 1808. Every chief justice and every
justice of the United States has held
this little sacred tome in taking his
oath of office. Many thousands of law-
yers have held it, and to write the names
of the men who have touched the covers
would be to name the men who have
made the bench and bar of the United
States illustrious. It was printed in Lon-
don in 1799, and is to-day but little the
worse for wear.

A young lady of Providence, R. I.,
has shocked her friends by marrying a
Chinaman who was a member of her
Sunday-school class. For this act she
was expelled from the City Missionary
Society. The New York World suggests
that this is all wrong—that the surest
way to convert a susceptible young
"heathen" is to "let a zealous Ameri-
can girl marry him." Domestic life
affords opportunities for bringing a
Chinaman under the influence of civiliza-
tion that no Sunday-school can supply.
And it may be an open question whether
the Providence girl, and not the mission-
ary society, has not hit upon the true
method of the evangelization of China.

The new notes which the bank of France
is about to issue will be in two colors,
blue and pink, and so blended as to pro-
cure a general tint approaching violet.
It is believed at the bank that these
notes are inimitable except at an expendi-
ture of time and money that would ef-
fectually check enterprise in that direc-
tion. The new fifty and hundred franc
notes are now being printed, and of
five-hundred and a thousand
franc will soon leave the engraver's
hands. The new notes, respecting which
the chemists and engravers are so con-
fident, have been produced in a twentieth
part of the time spent on those which
are now to be gradually withdrawn
from circulation. M. Barre was three
years engaged upon the model of the
present thousand franc note, and that
of the hundred franc was five years in
the artist's hands.

Minnesota, as well as some other states,
has a prison labor problem. The Minn-
esota legislature abolished the contract
system in 1887, and in haste to comply
with the demands of labor organizations
no proper provision was made for the
employment of convicts. The prison in-
spectors of that state are now visiting
states similarly afflicted to report sugges-
tions to remedy the evil at the
next session of the legislature.
They find everywhere a feeling
of uncertainty regarding
convict labor, but are satisfied that
convict labor was greatly exaggerated. The
chief trouble with the contract system
had been, they find, the difficulty of pre-
serving the reformatory principle and
prison discipline and in checking the
greed of selfish contractors. They are
satisfied, however, that laws can be
passed which will reform the prison labor
system and still give the convicts employ-
ment.

The state of Alabama enacted a law
prohibiting persons afflicted with color
blindness from serving on railway lines
within that state in the capacity of loco-
motive engineer, fireman, brakeman,
station agent, switchman, flagman, gate
tender or signal man, or in any other po-
sition in which it is necessary to dis-
cuss color signals, and it provides
that any person who violates this law
shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more
than \$100, and imprisoned not less than
one month nor more than six months.

A railroad running through Ala-
bama violated the law and was indicted
and convicted. Its managers imagined
that this was an infringement of their con-
stitutional freedom, and as their road is an
inter-state line they carried the case to the

United States supreme court, which has
decided against them on all points. The
court holds that inasmuch as the state
could lawfully require an examination as to
the general fitness of a person to be
employed on a railroad, it follows that
the state can lawfully require an exami-
nation as to his fitness in some one par-
ticular. Color blindness being a defect
of a vital character, it is clearly com-
petent for the states to provide against ac-
cidents on railway trains running within
their limits by exacting examinations
which shall serve to prevent the employ-
ment of color-blind persons. Where
railroads run through different
states, congress possesses
power under the constitution to
legislate for the same purpose with refer-
ence to such a line; but in the absence of
legislation by congress the right of each
separate state thus to regulate that por-
tion of the road within its own bounds
cannot successfully be disputed. Further,
the court sustained the validity of the
provision of the law which compels rail-
road companies to pay the expense of
examination of persons applying for the
places named in their service. The sug-
gestion of the New York State that every
state should enact a law similar to that of
Alabama is a good one.

ABOUT MEN AND WOMEN.

Rider Hazard got \$250 for "King
Solomon's Mines," and the publishers
made \$50,000 from it.

The Emperor William has renewed his
grandfather's order that none of the im-
perial servants shall wear a mustache.

General Greeley of the United States
signal service predicts that the coldest
day will be between January 20 and 30.

There is little hope that the empress of
Russia will recover from the shock
shock caused by the recent railroad ac-
cident.

Robert Stevenson, engineer, of Glasgow
is the first one to claim an invention
which will drive ocean ships up to forty
knots an hour.

At ninety-two years of age, Ex-Gov-
ernor Berry of New Hampshire is in vig-
orous health, and goes out walking or
driving almost every day.

Adelaide Deitchon has taken to whist-
ling as a way of entertaining London
society. She is a clever imitator of birds
and would introduce short scenes in her
plays that allowed her to speak pieces
and chirp.

Calvin Fairbanks of Angeleno, N. Y.,
still carries on his back marks of some of
the 3500 stripes he received while in the
Saulkoff (Ky.) jail. He served twenty
years for running fugitive slaves over the
Ohio river.

It is asserted by those who have seen
Mrs. Annie Rivers-Chandler that she is
not by any means so beautiful as her
pictures represent her. Her nose has a
decided hump, and when proofs of her
photographs are sent to her, she com-
pletely tones down her prominent or-
nament with a fine lead pencil and
touches up the features generally. She is
something of an artist herself and un-
derstands just how to do it.

The Prince of Wales is losing his skill
as a marksman. At the imperial hunt
in Austria he missed four stag, much to
the surprise and disgust of Francis
Joseph. The reason for this decadence
in his ability as a hunter is not hard to
discover. He smokes too much to retain
a steady hand; and his nerves are not in
a healthy condition. It is said that he
smokes ten cigars a day, and a large
number of cigarettes besides.

In 1890 will end the term of 100 years
during which the cities of Boston and
Philadelphia have each enjoyed the re-
venue from the bequest of \$500,000 made
by Benjamin Franklin. The money was to
be loaned to young married artificers,
and the trust has been executed, al-
though the lapse of a century requires a
new disposition of the funds. It is sig-
nificant that while in Boston the \$500,000
have grown to nearly \$325,000, in Phila-
delphia the \$500,000 have become only
\$70,000, and that in both cases the amount
is less than Franklin estimated it would be.

Howell Osborn, whom Fay Templeton
has gone to Paris to join, was not a suc-
cess as a financier. He left several big
unbalanced accounts as mementoes of
pyrotechnical exploits in Wall street.
His father, Charles J. Osborn, was one
of the most successful operators in the
street up to the time of his death. He
got his start as a broker executing orders
for Jay Gould, and when he started
speculating for himself, aided by his own
shrewdness, favored him. He left his
son a large fortune, but he wisely left it
in trust. It yields \$30,000 a year.
Young Osborn was an ultra dude when
in the heyday of his career. The stage
always had a great fascination for him.
Every night he had a box at the theater,
which he filled with his companions. He
sent flowers by the cart-load to actresses,
and treated the "footlight favorites" to
expensive suppers after the performance.
He will probably marry Fay Templeton.

"THE DUCHESS" IS A MRS. HUNGERFORD.

who lives in one of the most beautiful
homes in Ireland. She has earned a
handsome competency with her pen, and
anything she chooses to write is sure to
bring her